

August 27, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: UAW to take right-to-work case to Michigan Supreme Court

"A union says it will appeal a state Court of Appeals ruling that says Michigan's right-to-work law applies to state employees."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Hearing on juvenile sentencing draws loved ones of both victims and killers

"Relatives of murder victims and juveniles serving life sentences without parole filled a committee room today as state lawmakers considered changing Michigan's sentencing laws to conform with a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court ruling."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Blount appointed chief judge of 36th District Court

"Judge Nancy M. Blount has been appointed chief judge of Detroit's 36th District Court by the Michigan Supreme Court. The new chief judge has named Prentis Edwards, Jr. as the 36th District's chief judge pro tem.... Judge Blount was appointed to fill the rest of a chief judge term that ends December 31, 2013."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Can ousted Troy mayor Janice Daniels make a comeback amid transit center problems?

"... Among her objections, [Janice] Daniels said repeatedly, was that the city's title to the land where the center was being built was clouded. And a 3-0 ruling in March by the state Court of Appeals agreed, assigning ownership of the land to the developer of the 80-acre retail and condominium complex that surrounds the transit parcel. The city has appealed that ruling to the Michigan Supreme Court, which could consider the case as soon as Sept. 17, city officials said."

[Full story](#)

Bay City Times: Bay County judge tells Midland man he's lucky he didn't kill someone in setting wrong mobile home on fire

"The day before his 25th birthday, a Midland man learned he'll head to prison for torching a Bay County mobile home. Bay County Circuit Judge Joseph K. Sheeran on Monday, Aug. 26, sentenced Charles A. Pryor to 40 months to 20 years in prison, the maximum allowable under sentencing guidelines."

[Full story](#)

The Daily Tribune: Drunken driving trial date set for Macomb County judge's companion

"An Oct. 1 trial was scheduled Monday for a Macomb County judge's companion who is accused of driving drunk with his juvenile children in her vehicle. The trial date was set by Judge Debra Nance in 46th District Court in Southfield for Brenda Conway, 50, of Troy, who is charged with enhanced drunken driving due to minors occupying her Volkswagen SUV."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb Daily and the Oakland Press.

Grand Haven Tribune: Sobriety court: Family impact

This is the second in a three-part special series on the local "sobriety court." "The disease of alcoholism affects not only the alcoholic, but every member of the family."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: More judges? Kent County committee to look at what courts need

"Any new circuit judge in Kent County would likely split their duties between probate and family courts, Chief Circuit Court Judge Donald Johnston said. Kent County has appointed a special subcommittee to study a recommendation made in June by the State Court Administrator's Office that Kent County should be one of three in the state to get more judges."

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Jackson City Council to evaluate class action suit, settlement offer in September

"A settlement offer in a class action lawsuit against the city will be reviewed by Jackson City Council next month.... Saline resident and Jackson property owner Phillip Panzica filed a class action lawsuit against the city earlier this month. It was filed after a Michigan Court of Appeals ruling on Aug. 1 found the city's stormwater utility fee illegal."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: People's Law School to begin Sept. 10 at Hannah Community Center (third article)

"The Michigan Association for Justice (formerly the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association), along with Sinas Dramis PC and Wayne State Law School, will host the People's Law School beginning Sept. 10. The seven-week program is open to the community and provides an opportunity for non-lawyers to learn about the legal system. The faculty includes judges, elected officials, seasoned attorneys and law professors."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Royal Oak lawyer deemed flight risk, jailed while awaiting trial on federal charges

"A Royal Oak attorney has been charged with violating 18 U.S.C. § 2423 for transporting a juvenile across states lines with the intent to engage in criminal sexual activity. Donald Guest, 43, allegedly traveled to Georgia with the girl, a minor prostitute, in July 2012, according to the Eastern District of Michigan's Order of Detention Pending Trial."

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: West Michigan bankruptcy court will get two new judges next year

"West Michigan's bankruptcy court is going to have two new judges on the bench next year after two long-time appointees, U.S. Bankruptcy Judges Jeffrey R. Hughes and James D. Gregg, announced retirement plans."

[Full story](#)

The News-Herald/Southgate: Former Melvindale mayor, treasurer dies at 91

"William I. Burke, a former Melvindale mayor and treasurer, served the public for most of his adult life. Mr. Burke, 91, was born Nov. 12, 1921, in Detroit. He died Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013. In addition to his service in Melvindale, he also was elected as a judge and served on many commissions.... Burke ran for municipal judge in 1977 and won a seat, but was never sworn in as the position was eliminated and the state set up the current district court system."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Pastor cleared in dispute over child abuse

"A western Michigan pastor who was told about suspected child abuse can't be prosecuted for failing to report it, the state appeals court said last Friday, citing a law that gives clergy protection in cases dealing with confidential information. The court, in a 3-0 decision, agreed with similar decisions by judges in Ionia County, east of Grand Rapids."

[Full story](#)

Press & Guide/Dearborn: DEARBORN: Jurisdiction changing in question of who's paying settlement in Hultgren-Somers lawsuit

"The resolution of who is responsible for paying the settlement of a lawsuit against 19th District Judge Mark Somers will be moving to a new venue. U.S. District Judge David Lawson ruled Aug. 16 that the question needs to be resolved on the state court level, so Joel Sklar, attorney for former 19th District deputy court administrator Julie Hultgren, said a declaratory action will be filed in Wayne County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)